IN THE CLAIMS

Upon entry of the present amendment, the status of the claims will be as is shown below.

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the present application.

1. (Currently Amended) A method of managing connections between a Java 2 enterprise edition (J2EE) application server and a <u>remote</u> common object request broker architecture (CORBA) enterprise information system, comprising:

integrating a resource adapter with the <u>J2EE</u> application server, the resource adapter comprising an encapsulated CORBA interface to the <u>remote CORBA</u> enterprise information system; and

establishing a persistent CORBA connection between the <u>J2EE</u> application server and the <u>remote CORBA</u> enterprise information system.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of managing connections according to claim 1, further comprising:

receiving a request from an application component implemented by the <u>J2EE</u> application server to allocate the persistent CORBA connection and determining whether the persistent CORBA connection is available for allocation.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of managing connections according to claim 2, further comprising:

allocating the persistent CORBA connection to the application component when a persistent CORBA connection is available, and informing the application component that the CORBA connection is unavailable when the persistent CORBA connection is unavailable.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of managing connections according to claim 2, further comprising:

establishing another persistent CORBA connection between the <u>J2EE</u> application server and the <u>CORBA</u> enterprise information system when the persistent CORBA connection is unavailable, and allocating the other persistent CORBA connection to the application component.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of managing connections according to claim 1, further comprising:

receiving a message from the <u>CORBA</u> enterprise information system indicating that the persistent CORBA connection is not active and, in response, terminating the persistent CORBA connection.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of managing connections according to claim 1, further comprising:

monitoring the persistent CORBA connection to determine whether the persistent CORBA connection is active.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of managing connections according to claim 1, further comprising:

establishing additional CORBA connections between the <u>J2EE</u> application server and the <u>CORBA</u> enterprise information system until a predetermined minimum number of CORBA connections are established.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of managing connections according to claim 7, further comprising:

establishing additional CORBA connections between the <u>J2EE</u> application server and the <u>CORBA</u> enterprise information system until a predetermined maximum number of CORBA connections are established,

wherein a CORBA connection established after the predetermined minimum number of CORBA connections are established, is established based on a determination, in response to a request from an application component implemented by the <u>J2EE</u> application server to allocate a CORBA connection, that the previously established CORBA connections are unavailable.

9. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium for storing a computer program that manages connections between a Java 2 enterprise edition (J2EE) application server and a <u>remote</u> common object request broker architecture (CORBA) enterprise information system, the computer readable medium comprising:

an integrating—source code segment that integrates a resource adapter with the <u>J2EE</u> application server, the resource adapter comprising an encapsulated CORBA interface to the <u>remote</u>

<u>CORBA</u> enterprise information system, and

a persistent CORBA connection establishing source code segment that establishes a persistent CORBA connection between the <u>J2EE</u> application server and the <u>remote CORBA</u> enterprise information system.

10. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium according to claim 9, further comprising:

a request receiving—source code segment that receives a request from an application component implemented by the <u>J2EE</u> application server to allocate the persistent CORBA connection; and

an availability determining—source code segment that determines whether the persistent CORBA connection is available for allocation.

11. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium according to claim 10, further comprising:

a CORBA connection allocating-source code segment that allocates the persistent CORBA connection to the application component when a persistent CORBA connection is available; and

a connection manager informing-source code segment that informs the application component that the CORBA connection is unavailable when the persistent CORBA connection is unavailable.

12. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium according to claim 10, further comprising:

another persistent CORBA connection establishing-source code segment that establishes another persistent CORBA connection between the <u>J2EE</u> application server and the <u>CORBA</u> enterprise information system when the persistent CORBA connection is unavailable; and

another CORBA connection allocating source code segment that allocates the other persistent CORBA connection to the application component.

- 13. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium according to claim 9, further comprising:
- a message receiving-source code segment that receives a message from the <u>CORBA</u> enterprise information system indicating that the persistent CORBA connection is not active; and

a persistent CORBA connection terminating—source code segment that terminates the persistent CORBA connection in response to receiving the message that the persistent CORBA connection is not active.

- 14. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium according to claim 9, further comprising:
- a monitoring—source code segment that monitors the persistent CORBA connection to determine whether the persistent CORBA connection is active.

15. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium according to claim 9, further comprising:

a minimum CORBA connections establishing-source code segment that establishes additional CORBA connections between the <u>J2EE</u> application server and the <u>CORBA</u> enterprise information system until a predetermined minimum number of CORBA connections are established.

16. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium according to claim 15, further comprising:

a maximum CORBA connections establishing—source code segment that establishes additional CORBA connections between the <u>J2EE</u> application server and the <u>CORBA</u> enterprise information system until a predetermined maximum number of CORBA connections are established,

wherein a CORBA connection established after the predetermined minimum number of CORBA connections are established, is established based on a determination, in response to a request from an application component implemented by the <u>J2EE</u> application server to allocate a CORBA connection, that the previously established CORBA connections are unavailable.

17. (Currently Amended) A Java 2 enterprise edition (J2EE) compliant application server that hosts a resource adapter for managing connections between the <u>J2EE</u> application server and a <u>remote</u> common object request broker architecture (CORBA) enterprise information system, comprising:

a processor that implements a customized deployment descriptor for deploying the resource adapter, the resource adapter comprising an encapsulated CORBA interface for the <u>remote CORBA</u> enterprise information system, the deployed resource adapter establishing a persistent CORBA connection between the <u>J2EE</u> application server and the <u>remote CORBA</u> enterprise information system.

18. (Currently Amended) The <u>J2EE</u> application server according to claim 17, further comprising:

a connection manager that processes a request received from an application component implemented by the <u>J2EE</u> application server to allocate the persistent CORBA connection, the <u>J2EE</u> application server determining whether the persistent CORBA connection is available for allocation in response to receiving the request.

- 19. (Currently Amended) The <u>J2EE</u> application server according to claim 18, in which the connection manager further allocates the persistent CORBA connection to the application component when the persistent CORBA connection is available, the connection manager determining that the CORBA connection is unavailable when the persistent CORBA connection is unavailable.
- 20. (Currently Amended) The <u>J2EE</u> application server according to claim 18, in which another persistent CORBA connection is established with the <u>CORBA</u> enterprise information system

when the persistent CORBA connection is unavailable, and in which the connection manager further allocates the other persistent CORBA connection to the application component.

21. (Currently Amended) The <u>J2EE</u> application server according to claim 17, further comprising:

a connection manager that receives a message from the <u>CORBA</u> enterprise information system indicating that the persistent CORBA connection is not active, the connection manager terminating the persistent CORBA connection in response to receiving the message.

22. (Currently Amended) The <u>J2EE</u> application server according to claim 17, further comprising:

a connection manager that monitors the persistent CORBA connection to determine whether the persistent CORBA connection is active.

23. (Currently Amended) The <u>J2EE</u> application server according to claim 17, further comprising:

a management module that establishes additional CORBA connections with the <u>CORBA</u> enterprise information system until a predetermined minimum number of CORBA connections are established.

- 24. (Currently Amended) The <u>J2EE</u> application server according to claim 23, the management module establishing additional CORBA connections with the <u>CORBA</u> enterprise information system until a predetermined maximum number of CORBA connections are established.
- 25. (Currently Amended) The <u>J2EE</u> application server according to claim 24, further comprising:

a connection manager that receives requests from an application component implemented by the <u>J2EE</u> application server to allocate a CORBA connection, the management module establishing CORBA connections after the predetermined minimum number of CORBA connections are established, based on a determination that the previously established CORBA connections are unavailable.